

My God you people are without a doubt right up there on the incompetence scale, just slightly below President Bush. You DO work for the government so I suppose this is to be expected, after all, why would anybody work for the government? You cannot do this. The FBI's Carnivore program already makes it easier to conduct wiretaps and with the induction of the patriot act there is already too much power in the hands of local and federal agencies. There is just too much power and not enough checks and balances. I know that you work for the government or you would already know this and wouldn't even consider making it easier for them. The laws that make things easier on the law enforcement agencies rely heavily on them not to abuse those powers however since they have these powers you have to know that they will use them to cut corners and bypass all the red tape that is there for a reason. The checks and balances are there to prevent agencies from abusing their powers and you are honestly thinking about giving them more? I would have to agree that in some cases time is an extremely important factor the the red tape hinders the process of upholding the law and that in some instances it should be bypassed but the problems caused are far greater than the benefits. We have already lost too many freedoms, don't take away more of them under the guise of "security" or "public safety." "He who sacrifices freedom for security is neither free nor secure." If you know who said this you will drop the subject and never bring it up again, if you don't know who said it then you should be fired. The key is a balance of freedom and security which we don't have. I'm this |--| close to becoming ashamed of being an American. This country is no more of a democracy than China is, the only difference is that China doesn't try and convince its people that it is something that it is not. I love this country with all of my heart but the government needs a lot of work before I will show it the respect that one of its supposed stature deserves. I appreciate that you took the time to read my letter and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Joseph Hatlan